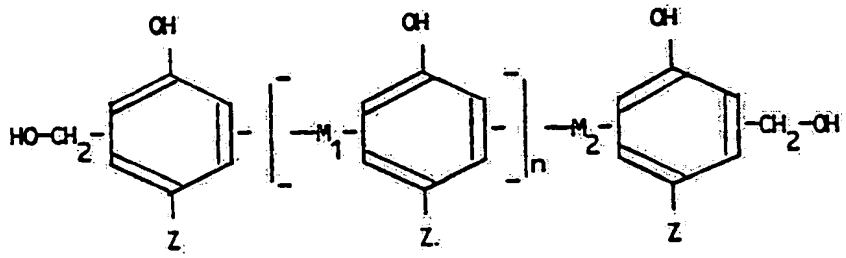
AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended) An EPDM terpolymer and polyolefin based plasto-elastomeric composition containing the partially or fully cross-linked elastomeric phase, where for cross-linking it is possible to use, alternatively:

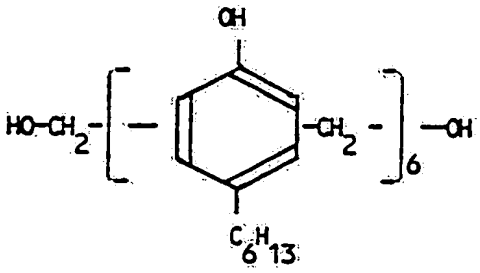
a) a formula (I) alkylphenol – formaldehyde non-halogenated phenolic resin, where $\mathbf{M_1}$ and $\mathbf{M_2}$ are $-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2-C-CH_2-$ radicals, which may be the same or different, **Z** is an alkylene, acrylic or alkyl radical containing between 4 and 16 carbon atoms, and **n** is an integer between 0 and 6:

(I)



b) a formula (II) phenol – formaldehyde non-halogenated resole resin with the formula:

(II)



and in which, in addition to the non-halogenated phenolic resin, an aromatic carboxylic acid is used for cross-linking, in particular salicylic acid, where for each part by weight of resin between

0.1 and 0.8 parts by weight of salicylic acid are used, in which the composition ~~being characterised in that~~ fillers of mineral origin are added to it, directly in the compounding step with cross-linking or subsequently to the material that is already cross-linked, to achieve a total specific gravity of up to 2 kg/dm^3 and having hardnesses ranging from ShA 40 to ShD 50, the fillers of mineral origin being in a quantity which may be as much as almost 90% by weight of the composition.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ polyolefin is the product of the copolymerisation of olefinic monomers selected from ethylene, propylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 3-methyl-1-pentene, 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene, 3-metyl-1-hexene, 2,4,4 trimethyle-1-pentene ~~and the like~~.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The composition ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the part to which fillers of mineral origin are not added contains between 10 and 90% of polyolefin and between 90 and 10% of a EPDM terpolymer.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The composition ~~according to either of the foregoing claims~~ of claim 3, wherein the EPDM terpolymer consists of at least two olefinic monomers and one dienic monomer conjugated or not conjugated in the main polymeric chain.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The composition ~~according to~~ of claim 4, wherein the olefinic monomers are selected from ethylene, propylene, butene-1.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The composition ~~according to~~ of claim 4, wherein the dienic monomer is selected from ethylidene-norbornene, 1,4-hexadiene, dicyclopentadiene, 2-methyl-1,4-pentadiene, 1,4,9-decatriene, 1,5-cyclopentadiene, polybutene, polybutadiene and their derivatives.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to any of the foregoing claims~~ of claim 1, wherein the fillers of mineral origin are calcium carbonate $CaCo_3$ which may or may not be coated, pure or impure, precipitated or not.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~compound according to~~ of claim 7, wherein the calcium carbonate has a typical specific gravity of 2.71 g/cm^3.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to any of the claims from 1 to 6~~ of claim 1, wherein the fillers of mineral origin are aluminium hydroxide – chemical formula $Al(OH)_3$.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~compound according to~~ of claim 9, wherein the aluminium hydroxide has a typical specific gravity of 2.42 g/cm^3.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to any of the claims from 1 to 6~~ of claim 1, wherein the fillers of mineral origin are magnesium hydroxide – chemical formula $Mg(OH)_2$.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to any of the claims from 1 to 6~~ of claim 1, wherein the fillers of mineral origin are Barytes – chemical formula $BaSO_4$.

Claim 13 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~compound according to~~ of claim 12, wherein the Barytes is a barium sulphate with different colours and has a typical specific gravity of 4.48 g/cm^3.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The plasto-elastomeric composition ~~according to any of the claims from 9 to 11~~ of claim 9, wherein the magnesium and/or aluminium hydroxide are present in quantities of up to 75%, giving the product flame-proof characteristics.